

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Office of Public Affairs

For Immediate Release September 16, 2008 **Contact: Chuck Wolfe**

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Gov. Beshear announces Transportation Enhancement and Safe Routes funding for Northern Kentucky

Projects will 'enhance quality of life,' improve safety

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Steve Beshear today announced \$1.3 million for sidewalk improvements, new streetscapes, and pedestrian path and bike trail improvements in Northern Kentucky. The funding is part of the Transportation Enhancement (TE) and Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programs and reinforces Gov. Beshear's emphasis on investing in local communities.

"These are investments that will enhance the quality of life in these communities," Gov. Beshear said. "Our administration is proud to support the efforts of progressive communities to provide a safe, healthy and attractive environment for citizens."

The TE program offers federal funding for unique and creative approaches that integrate transportation into a community in an environmentally friendly way.

The projects include:

• **City of Ludlow** – \$398,000

The Ludlow Streetscape Phase II project will enable the city to replace aging and cracked sidewalks along Elm Street (KY 8), making it safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. The project includes upgraded sidewalks, decorative lighting, signage, historical markers, street furniture and landscaping. The new sidewalks will be compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

• **City of Florence** – \$404,500

The Turfway Road Corridor beautification project will allow the city to landscape and replace aging and cracked sidewalks along Elm Street (KY 8) making it safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. This project includes upgraded ADA-compliant sidewalks, decorative lighting, signage, historical markers, street furniture and landscaping.

The SRTS projects are designed to encourage students in kindergarten through eighth grade to walk or ride bicycles to school – getting exercise and reducing motor vehicle traffic at the same time. The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet administers both programs in Kentucky.

Other projects include:

• **City of Florence -** \$96,500

The Florence Center Street sidewalk project will allow students to walk or bike to Florence Elementary School and Boone County High School more safely. Sidewalks will be constructed on Center and Oblique streets. A crosswalk will be installed on Center Street providing direct access to Florence Elementary for pedestrians and cyclists. In addition, handicapped-accessible ramps will be installed at various locations. Currently, students walk and bike along the routes sharing the road with motorists.

• Gallatin County Board of Education - \$163,000

The Gallatin County schools' sidewalk and bike path project encourages students to walk or bike to four schools: Lower Elementary, Upper Elementary and Gallatin County Middle and High schools. The funding will include three sidewalk paths to link Dorman Drive/Asbury Point, Center Avenue/Parkside Apartments and Boaz Drive/Gallatin County Elementary to each of the schools and US 42. In addition, this project will link the school campus to the county park which is used for physical activity.

• **City of Carrollton** - \$247,000

The Polk Street extension project will enable students to walk or bike to four schools: Win Elementary, Cartmell Elementary, Carroll County Middle and High schools. The project will include sidewalks along Polk Street, which when extended to Schuerman Avenue will be the central collector for the elementary, middle and high schools. In addition, traffic calming measures and pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements will be made to ensure safety. Nearly 850 students live within a two-mile radius of the schools. Project funded through the TE program.

"Sometimes smaller, lower-cost improvements can do a great deal to enhance practical and aesthetic appeal," said Transportation Secretary Joe Prather. "Through effective use of our Transportation Enhancement and Safe Routes dollars, we are helping communities throughout the commonwealth do great work that will improve life for local citizens."

Information about the programs is available at http://www.tea21.ky.gov.